



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT:	Gary Emmott	§	
		§	GROUP ART UNIT: 3727
		§	
SERIAL NO.:	10/784,504	§	
		§	EXAMINER:
FILED:	February 23, 2004	§	J. F. Pascua
		§	
FOR:	Apparatus for	§	
	Fastening and	§	
	Separating Containers	§	

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED NOVEMBER 4, 2004

Our File No.: 2066.016
Date: December 2, 2004

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Applicant respectfully acknowledges receipt of the Office Action dated November 4, 2004. The Examiner is requested to enter the following amendments:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please delete claims 7, 8, 16, 17, 24, 25, 28, 33, 34, 38, 41, 49-51, 57, 58, 60-67 without prejudice.

REMARKS

RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT FOR RESTRICTIONS

The Examiner has required Applicant to elect a single alleged disclosed species among 11 identified species for prosecution on the merits. In response, Applicant provisionally elects Group V, which is directed to Figure 9. Claims readable thereon are claims 1-6, 9-15, 18-23, 26, 27, 29-32, 35-37, 39, 40, 42-48, 52-56, 59 and 68.

It should be noted that Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's restriction